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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Hildebrand, et al)	Atty Dkt No:	6680.034
)		
Serial No: 10/022,066)	Examiner:	Not Yet Assigned
)		
Filed: December 18, 2001)	Art Unit:	1643
)		
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS)		
FOR THE PRODUCTION OF)		
SOLUBLE MHC ANTIGENS)		
AND USES THEREOF)		

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Applicant herein seeks to amend the above referenced application as shown below, prior to the first examination and action of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

In the Specification:

Please amend paragraph [0001] as submitted herein below in clean replacement form. Following the Remarks section is a marked-up version of paragraph [0001] illustrating the changes made thereto. No substantive changes have been made in the application, and such amendment does not introduce any new matter into the application.

[0001] This application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) of provisional U.S. Serial No. 60/256,410, filed December 18, 2000, entitled "HLA PRODUCTION FROM GENOMIC DNA," provisional U.S. Serial No. 60/256,409, filed December 18, 2000, entitled "HLA PROTEIN PRODUCTION FROM CDNA," provisional U.S. Serial No. 60/327,907, filed October 9, 2001, entitled "PRODUCTION OF SOLUBLE HUMAN HLA CLASS I PROTEINS FROM GENOMIC DNA," and provisional U.S. Serial No. 60/293,261, filed May 24, 2001, entitled "DETERMINING IMMUNOLOGIC UTILITY OF SEQUENCES USING SOLUBLE HLA," the contents of which are hereby expressly incorporated in their entirety by reference.

REMARKS

This amendment is submitted prior to the first examination and action of the United States Patent and Trademark Office to amend the history of the application to claim benefit under 35 U.S.C. 119(e) of provisional application US Serial No. 60/327,907. No substantive changes have been made in the application and such amendments do not introduce any new matter. Applicant respectfully requests that such amendments be entered into the record.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments concerning the before-mentioned amendments to the application or any other matter, Applicant's agent will welcome the opportunity to discuss same with the Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,



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MARKED-UP VERSION OF PARAGRAPH OF THE SPECIFICATION**SHOWING THE CHANGES MADE THERETO**

[0001] This application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) of provisional U.S. Serial No. 60/256,410, filed December 18, 2000, entitled "HLA PRODUCTION FROM GENOMIC DNA," provisional U.S. Serial No. 60/256,409, filed December 18, 2000, entitled "HLA PROTEIN PRODUCTION FROM CDNA," **[and]** provisional U.S. Serial No. 60/327,907, filed October 9, 2001, entitled "PRODUCTION OF SOLUBLE HUMAN HLA CLASS I PROTEINS FROM GENOMIC DNA," **and provisional U.S. Serial No. 60/293,261, filed May 24, 2001, entitled "DETERMINING IMMUNOLOGIC UTILITY OF SEQUENCES USING SOLUBLE HLA,"** the contents of which are hereby expressly incorporated in their entirety by reference.